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Wastewater News

Internet Address: <http://www.epa.gov/owm>

Working towards Clean Water



Clean Water . . . a better environment
Office of Wastewater Management



UPCOMING MEETINGS, CONFERENCES AND TRAINING

What is happening in February?

Go to the OW Calendar of Events site by clicking here

<<http://yosemite.epa.gov/water/news.nsf/owcalendar?OpenView&Grid=4&Date=1999-07-05>>

Upcoming Events

Urban Water Resource Tools

OWM, in cooperation with Region 5 and the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission, is co-sponsoring a National Conference on "Tools for Urban Water Resource Management and Protection" in Chicago, February 7 - 10, 2000. The conference will provide participants with practical, applied information on the most effective tools and technology for meeting NPDES permit requirements, and will emphasize the Phase II program's six minimum measures. For more information, see <http://www.nipc.cog.il.us/water_tools_2000.htm> or contact John Kosco on (202) 260-6385.

Satellite Videoconference on the Phase II Storm Water Rule

APWA, through an EPA grant, will present a nation wide satellite videoconference outlining the requirements of the storm water phase II regulations, and what public works agencies must do to comply, on February 15, 2000. For downlink locations and registration information, see <<http://www.apwa.net/education/workshops/stormwater.htm>>.

NPDES Permit Writers' Training Course

The objective of the NPDES Permit Writers' Training Course is to provide the basic regulatory framework and technical considerations that support the development of wastewater discharge permits as required under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program. The course is designed for new permit writers highlighting the process of developing, issuing and complying with NPDES permits. The format of the course is a combination of lecture, case examples, and practical exercises that are geared to acquaint participants with the tools and resources available to assist them in writing NPDES permits. The training course lasts 5 days and there is no fee for attending. Current courses are scheduled for Los Angeles, Boston and Nashville. For more information please visit our website: <<http://www.epa.gov/owm/npdesup.htm>>.

2 The Office of Wastewater Management

Pretreatment Training Courses For 2000

In cooperation with the Water Environment Federation (WEF), EPA will be presenting two-day Pretreatment Training Courses at a variety of locations in 2000. The objective of the "Introductory Course" is to provide the basic regulatory and technical framework that support the development and implementation of pretreatment programs under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program and the Clean Water Act (CWA). The objective of the advanced pretreatment training course, "Industrial Classification & Permitting Course," is to provide detailed information related to identifying, classifying, and permitting industrial users. Both courses are designed and recommended for environmental professionals responsible for implementing the Pretreatment Program at the local level, industrial dischargers, and consultants. The advanced course uses a combination of lectures and exercises to convey the necessary information, and people attending the course are requested to bring calculators to complete some of the exercises which require calculation of permit limits. The current Introductory Course scheduled for 2000 will be held in Denver, CO, on March 14-15, 2000. The current Industrial Classification & Permitting Course scheduled for 2000 will be held in Dallas, TX, on February 29 - March 1, 2000. For registration materials and copies of the agenda of the courses, please visit our website: <http://www.epa.gov/owm/precour.htm>. An additional advanced course (Industrial Classification & Permitting Course) is being presented in cooperation with the California Water Environment Association (CWEA) 27TH Annual CWEA Industrial & Hazardous Waste Conference and Exhibition in Huntington Beach, CA, on February 7-9, 2000. For registration materials, please visit the CWEA website: http://www.cwea.org/html/master_conferences.html.

National Environmental Training Center for Small Communities (NETCC)

NETCSC Sponsors Free 1-Day Workshops on Septic System Maintenance for Mobile Home Park Owners in California and Arizona. Training that aims to stem groundwater pollution caused by discharges from mobile-home park septic systems that accept holding-tank waste from recreational vehicles and mobile homes will take place at four different sites in February. The training focuses on how mobile home park owners can operate and maintain their septic systems so they meet State and local health requirements.

David Lenning of the Washington State Onsite Training Center, the training's cosponsor, will deliver the training and local sanitarians and State regulatory personnel will be on hand to answer audience questions. The training will be hosted by the Mission Springs Water District in Desert Hot Springs, Calif., on February 7; Fox's Pierpoint Landing Resort at Parker, Ariz., February 8; the Yuma County Environmental Health Department at Yuma, Ariz., on February 9; and the Quartzsite Town Hall at Quartzsite, Ariz., February 10. Elizabeth Janes of the USEPA Region 9 Groundwater Office supplied key information to NETCSC to facilitate the training. For more information contact Betty B. Ford at 202-260-8510.

National Drought Policy Commission

The National Drought Policy Commission (NDPC) held a public hearing and a business meeting on December 1-2, 1999 in Los Angeles. The NDPC discussed the draft report and gave comments to the Interagency Contacts Group for report revision. The NDPC held a teleconference meeting on January 5, 2000 to review status and schedule the remaining public hearings. Hearings will also be conducted in February of 2000 in Atlanta, Georgia; Columbus, Ohio (tentative location); and Boston, Massachusetts. The specific dates will be determined later. The request to extend the legislative deadline was denied; the NDPC plans to submit its final report in April, 2000. For more information, contact John Flowers on 202-260-7288 or visit the NDPC website at www.fsa.usda.gov/drought/.

REGULATIONS AT WORK

Direct Final Rule for EPA's Clean Water Act Awards

EPA Headquarters and Regions have provided the Municipal Assistance Branch with their comments to a draft direct final rule for the Clean Water Act awards. Comments are also expected from State Water Pollution Control Agencies and Tribal Coordinators. Meetings will be planned with OWM and OGC to discuss further development of the rule. The rule will formalize eligibility requirements, nominations process, application provisions and selection criteria for the Office of Wastewater Management's National Wastewater Management Excellence Awards programs. Currently, the rule includes awards for Operations and Maintenance, Beneficial Use of Biosolids, Pretreatment, Storm Water Management and Combined Sewer Overflow Controls.

The Year 2000 Guidance for EPA's National Operations and Maintenance Excellence Award Program was issued January 5, 2000. The guidance includes instructions and appropriate forms for the Regional O&M Awards Managers, and the national award applicants. EPA Regions should submit nominations for national O&M awards to EPA Headquarters by Friday, May 19, 2000.

The program brochure for EPA's National Wastewater Management Excellence awards lists the 1999 National winners and is currently available on the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/owm/muni.htm>.

For more information, contact Maria Campbell at (202) 260-5815.

END OF REPORT